



Lamoine Board of Selectmen

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Minutes of August 7, 2008

Chair Jo Cooper called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

Present were: Selectmen Brett Jones, S. Josephine Cooper, Richard Fennelly Jr., Chris Tadema-Wielandt, Cynthia Donaldson; Administrative Assistant Stu Marckoon, Marilyn Lockhart, Edna Coyne, and Douglas Stewart

The meeting was televised on Cable TV Channel 7, but not recorded.

Agenda Review – There was no change to the agenda or the addendum.

Warrant 3 – Selectmen signed expenditure warrant 3 for \$328,116.83. Stu reported that most of the warrant was for school expenses, and he was waiting for a check from the Maine Municipal Bond Bank for the construction warrant (\$240,000) before releasing the school checks.

Cash & Budget Report – Richard asked why a quarter of the public safety budget had been expended already. Stu said it's because the County Ambulance bill comes at the beginning of the fiscal year. Richard asked about the over-expenditure in Social Services. Stu said he cut a check for \$100 too much to the Warren Center and is expecting a refund soon.

Stu reported he moved \$100,000 from investment management to cover the expenses.

Town Meeting Warrants – Stu said the Board might want to address an issue on the addendum before proceeding with the August 14th warrant. He reported that the playground committee has requested to use town owned gravel for their project. Richard said it should be allowed to keep the project cost down. Jo said she would rather have it on the warrant than not.

Richard asked if the gravel head by the landfill is still open. Stu said he believed it was. Jo said this matter may have to go to the Planning Board to determine whether a permit is needed. Brett read from the Gravel Extraction Ordinance and said there is some question as to whether a permit is needed. Jo said she wondered if a contractor could trade gravel to expedite the project if the town had to go through the permit process. There was a brief discussion about asking for gravel donations.

Brett noted this was just a small part of the playground project. He explained what was left to do on the project, which his wife is heading up. Richard asked

about the timing. Brett said the desire was to get the project done before school reopens.

Chris moved to put the article on the warrant. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.**

Stu redrafted the town meeting warrant while the Board informally discussed the gravel issue.

Richard asked about the numbers in the town meeting article concerning EPS. Stu said the figures are different intentionally because of the way the EPS law is drafted. Cynthia asked about the wording about the excess of EPS being raised locally. Stu said the language came from the school department.

Jo moved to sign the warrants for August 14, 2008 and August 19, 2008. Chris 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed the warrants. Stu immediately posted the warrants at the town hall.**

Resignation of Cece Ohmart from Planning Board – Jo moved to accept Ms. Ohmart's resignation with deep regret. Chris 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, Selectmen signed a letter thanking Ms. Ohmart for her service.** Cynthia said she was struck by what a nice letter of resignation Ms. Ohmart wrote.

Resolution to open credit account – Jo moved to allow the treasurer to open a credit account at Hannaford. Richard 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0, the resolve was signed.**

Job Opening- Asst. Town Clerk/Asst. Tax Collector – Stu reported 22 applications had come in, and he was astounded by the number. He suggested a subcommittee weed through the applications and pick candidates for interviews. Jo said that was a good idea. Cynthia said she had suggested the same thing. Jo said she would like to serve on the committee. Brett said he would do that as well. Stu said he would like to be in on the process. Selectmen agreed that would be proper.

A brief discussion followed on what criteria ought to be used in the selection process. Cynthia said she wants to make sure the candidates know this might be only a one-year position as there is discussion about making the tax collector/town clerk a full time job. Other criteria included clerical skills, people skills, and flexibility in their hours of availability.

Cynthia asked if the subcommittee would report back to the board. Jo said that would be the plan, and to have a set of interviewees for next meeting.

Other – Stu reported the town office will close at 5PM next Thursday in order to get ready for town meeting.

Richard asked about the RSU process. Cynthia reported Flanders Bay voted to accept the remaining Union 92 towns, including Lamoine. She said CSD 8 (Amherst, Aurora, Great Pond, and Osborn) opted to join with the Brewer RSU.

Cynthia said she thought she sent a draft of the RSU proposal via e-mail, but no one at the meeting said they'd received it. She said folks would be interested in the budget as the debt is spread out in the RSU as proposed. She briefly explained how that would be accomplished and the favorable impact on Lamoine. She said she would try to send the documents again electronically.

There was a discussion about the RSU vote that will be coming up in December and January. She said if the vote fails, even though a town votes in favor of it, all the towns would end up being penalized by the state.

There was a brief discussion with the audience members about the Veterans Memorial Dedication being planned for September 13, 2008. The Veterans Memorial Committee will meet on August 20th and the dedication committee was asked to meet then as well.

Executive Session – Jo moved to enter executive session pursuant to 1MRSA §405(6)(a) to discuss a personnel matter. Brett 2nd. **Vote in favor was 5-0.** In at 7:50 PM, out at 7:55 PM.

Following the executive session there was a brief discussion about discovery of discarded needles at the transfer station.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Stu Marckoon, Adm. Asst.